

MISSIONARIES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES



NAGPUR PROVINCE

MSFS PROVINCIALATE
23,24 Residency Road, Sadar
Nagpur 440001 INDIA

Ph: 91-712-2527805. Mobile: 09823567585

Fax: 91-712-2555284

(off)provincialnagpurmsfs@gmail.com; (personal)jacobkarama@yahoo.com
(off)provincialbursarnagpur@gmail.com; wilsonmsfs@gmail.com

JK - 15

CIRCULAR TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCE

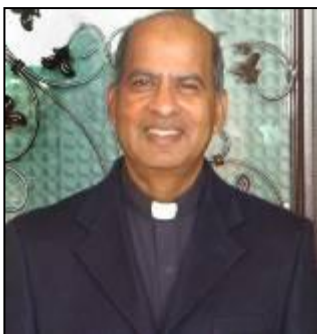
19.02.2013

My Dear Confreres

I greet you with peace and joy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I am happy to write this Circular in the context of XIX Ordinary General Chapter held from 1st to 15th February 2013 at Medchal, Hyderabad, India. Thirty-six Capitulants of the General Chapter came from all the Provinces, Regions and Delegations as the supreme legislating and teaching authority to determine the policies and programs of the Congregation for the next six years. The Statement of the Chapter reiterated the theme “**I want Mission: MSFS – Mystics of God’s Love for Prophetic Ministries Today**” is the re-affirmation of the historic religious missionary commitment of our Founder and being rooted in the Spirit and Spirituality of St Francis de Sales, and the attention of the members of the entire Congregation is directed to the contemplative and active dimension of life. Day One was dedicated to the out-going administration to present their reports which included the reports of all four General Secretaries of different forums, Asst Superior General and the Superior General. Fr Agnelo Fernandes in his 46 page report, inclusive of the statistics, enumerated the steps taken to implement the policies and programs of the 18th General Chapter. This report session was followed by a Recollection and on the next day the General Administrators were elected by secret ballots.

Hearty Welcome, Karibu Sana, Bienvenue, Bemvindo, Bien venido, Benvenuto, Swagatam, Suswagatam



In his welcome address, the former Superior General Fr Agnelo Fernandes invoked the members to follow the paths of grace characteristics of religious life to be lived in the mission of Christ. He emphasised the need to announce the Good News of Jesus to the poor, the faceless, the defenceless and the marginalised people of our times. Failure to respond in this way shall result in diluting the original vision of our founder. Renewal of faith is the core of all our varied apostolates and the bond of our fraternal communion. The Year of Faith urges us to deepen our own personal faith in God and in His Son Jesus and His word and the Church. He welcomed the delegates from 26 countries in their native languages and reiterated the global perspectives of the MSFS Congregation for Evangelisation. The delegates profusely thanked the outgoing Superior General for his benevolent spiritual leadership, the Orientations and Visions given to the Congregation for the last twelve years. The new Superior General, Fr Abraham Vettuvellil called him the embodiment of all what is ‘fransalian’ and requested the members to give him a standing ovation in appreciation for all what he is and has done for the Congregation. Fr Agnelo Agostinho Fernandes, the 13th Superior General of the MSFS Congregation, then, expressed his sentiments of affection and appreciation for his Asst Superior General, Councillors and to the members of the entire Congregation as he stepped out of his Office in a happy and cheerful manner. He expressed to me his willingness and anxiousness to be back to his province at the earliest. Nagpur Province takes great pride to be

blessed with his exemplary and in-born characteristic of a true fransalian, and, we look forward to welcome him back to the province to avail his valuable service.

WE PLEDGE OUR OBEDIENCE TO THE NEW SUPERIOR GENERAL



The delegates narrowed down to the one and only Fr Abraham Vettuvellil for the mantle of Fr Peter Mary Mermier to be the 14th Superior General of the MSFS Congregation. Overwhelmed by the confidence and trust reposed in him by the delegates and, after some moments of prayer and reflection, Fr Abraham accepted to shoulder this responsibility. At his acceptance, we all went to the Chapel and in an emotionally charged and prayerful environment; Fr Abraham was installed as the new Superior General wearing the simple cross of the Superior General passed on by his predecessor. He blessed the delegates who in turn pledged their obedience to him as the new Superior General. Addressing the delegates He urged all of us to **think Congregationally and act Provincially**. Fr Abraham Vettuvellil was born on 16.04.1961 at Vazhoor Kerala. He made his first profession in 1976 at Salesianum, Vizag, made his perpetual profession in 1989 at Vinayalaya, Bangalore, and was ordained priest in 1990 at Holy Cross Church, Elangoi, Kerala. Fr Abraham graduated from SB College, Changanacherry, and obtained MPH from JDV Pune, and Doctorate in Marriage and Family Counselling from Catholic University of America, Washington. His area of experience includes Education Formation and Preaching Ministry. He was the Provincial of South West India Province at the time of his election to the highest office of the Congregation. Fr Abraham Vettuvellil is known to be very amiable and soft spoken and an educator and preacher par excellence. As the entire Province of Nagpur congratulates him as he steps into the Office of the Superior General, let us pray that God may bless him with the wisdom to take our Congregation to greater apostolic and missionary ventures and to address the needs of the Universal Church.

FR.THUMMA MARIADAS REDDY: NEW ASSISTANT SUPERIOR GENERAL



Known for his abiding commitment to any given task, and the one instrumental for the smooth conduct of the XIX Ordinary General Chapter, Fr Thumma Mariadas Reddy was elected to the second highest office as Assistant Superior General with precise choice and mandate. Fr Thumma Mariadas Reddy was born in 1966 was ordained priest on 10th August 1990. He secured his Doctorate in Philosophy with distinction from Urban University, Rome, and Licentiate in Biblical Theology from the same university. He held several responsibilities in the Province of Visakhapatnam as Parish Priest, Correspondent to Schools, Teacher, Rector of Minor Seminary and Major Seminary and headed the Preaching Ministry at Dayanand Nagar, Hyderabad. His experience in foreign missions includes Pastoral Ministry in USA, Italy and animating Salesian Spirituality in USA, East Africa, Chad Cameroon, South Africa Region and Mozambique Mission. His areas of interest are preaching, teaching, writing articles and books and animating seminars. Prior to his election as the Asst Superior General he was the General Councillor for Missions, Innovative Ministry and Resource Mobilisation, Coordinator of the Retreat Preaching Team of the Congregation, Promoter of the Cause of the Founder, General Councillor for the Annual Salesian Retreat and Vice-Chairman of the Pre- Capitular Commission for General Chapter 2013. It is a matter of great joy and privilege to have such a young, dynamic and intelligent Asst Superior General for the Congregation. During the felicitation function held at MSFS Community Shanti Nagar, Hyderabad, Fr Paul Theneth called him a man of character with sincerity and an independent mind with no guile.

General Councillors and General Bursar



(From Left) Fr. Noel Rebello, Fr. George Parampukattil, Fr. Jose Kumbloickal, Fr. S. Jayaseelan & Fr. Augustine Mangatt
(Formation) (Education) (Innovative ministry) (Mission) (General Bursar)

Reports, Reports and Reports

All the units of the Congregation shared information to the entire body by way of Reports of last six years followed by clarifications. The Province Reports included the follow-up of Action Plans of the General Chapter and Provincial Congress, statistics of the members of different categories, planning of personnel, functioning of the forums, vision-mission plans of Centres, mission policies and directives, major mission undertakings, financial planning and streamlining, animation of communities, measures taken to strengthen religious life, implementation of Code of Ethics, measures taken to ensure financial transparency, commitment to the vision and concern of the Congregation, contributions to the Generalate, sharing of human-financial resources for common ventures, future plans of mission expansion, formation plan and expenditure, concerns and challenges of education and other apostolate and major concerns and strength of the Province.

The Province Reports were followed by Reports of USA Mission, Chile Mission, GAH, Suvidya College, Lumen Christi Institute and Ranchi Medical College Projects. There were reports by concerned Mission Delegations, Superiors of Frontier Missions in Africa and Reports of Missions in Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Trinidad and Santa Lucia, Canada and Australia. Besides these reports, the reports of various committees and in-charges were made available. They are reports of Salesian Recollections, Fransalian International, Fransalian Web Site, DVD on the Congregation, Constitution Growth Retreats, Salesian Retreats of Indian Institute of Spirituality, updates and renewal seminars, Commentary on the MSFS Constitutions, Report on the part-time mission Procure of Fr Thomas Fernandes, Report of Mission Procure of Fr Emil Mayoraz, Report from the Inter-Province local community in Rome, Report of the General Councillors House in Hyderabad and Report on MSFS History Project. These reports, indeed, unfolded the activities initiated by the out-going General Administration for the last six years. They made the Delegates to get connected to the day-to-day life of the entire Congregation.

Core Issues Deliberated

Core Issues referred to various concerns of the Congregation for which various groups were consulted and responses elicited. They included corrections and modifications to the Constitutions and General Directory. There were number of proposals to be deliberated and discussed to arrive at policies and decisions in order to formulate vision for the future Administration. Some of these core issues were voted for decisions after sufficient deliberations. Such core issues included USA Region - its stability and expansion; the struggles and problems present in Chile Mission; status of Suvidya College - its present system of animation and administration; the measures needed to be taken to safeguard and animate the religious living of confreres in GAH; juridical structure needed for German-speaking Switzerland and Australia; a clear vision of mission for the MSFS units in Africa in reference to East Africa, Chad, Cameroon, Mozambique and southern African region; the extent of co-ordination between main province and mission units and the steps to strengthen these units towards self-reliance and self-governance; the future of Lumen Christi Institute, Arusha; how to address the concrete reality of diminishing numbers in the western provinces of Franco-Swiss, Brazil and England; assessment of MSFS presence; the organisation of the juridical structure and the implantation of the congregation in Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Trinidad and Santa Lucia; prospects and plans of exploration for

MSFS Mission in South Asia; challenges of MSFS provinces in India; sharing of resources, personnel and finance; proper understanding of the Apostolate of Mission; Challenges in education, formation, stewardship, and innovative ministries; general decline of missionary fervour; code of ethics and vowed life; heavy institutionalisation; new governance - its relevance, efficacy and drawbacks; quality of our religious life; authority and leadership; formation of Fransalian heritage and dissemination of Salesian spirituality. These were core issues and proposals related to them were to provide a road map for General Administration to activate its units for the next six years.

Province News

Pastoral Visit of Rt Rev Elias Gonsalves and Christian Unity and Fellowship Day



26th January 2013 will be a memorable day for all Christians in Buldana on account of Christian Unity Week (January 18th to 25th). Catholic Church in Buldana in collaboration with Fransalian Vidya Niketan, Khamgaon, had organized a Christian Unity and Fellowship Day. The day began at 10.00am welcoming Bishop Elias by the Parishioners, Servite Sisters and MSFS Fathers of Buldana Catholic Church before the celebration of the Holy Eucharist presided over by him. The liturgy was meaningful along with a powerful message by the Bishop on the occasion of the Republic Day.

Christian unity prayer meeting was held in St Joseph High School auditorium at 11.45 am. The Priest-in-charge of Buldana Catholic Church, Fr K.V. Joseph, extended a warm welcome to Rt Rev Bishop and all the Pastors. After the traditional lighting of the lamp by all pastors/leaders, Bishop Elias read the Scripture, made the opening prayer and led everyone to feel sorry for the shortcomings. The guided prayer service took momentum in a prayerful atmosphere. All the pastors read various passages from the Bible in connection with UNITY and shared their thoughts and made meaningful prayers. All stood and professed the faith/creed, recited the Lord's Prayer and shared the sign of peace with one another. After the concluding prayer and blessing by the Bishop, the choir groups from all churches sang beautiful hymns and songs of praises with musical instruments. The Christian Unity Day celebration concluded with a Fellowship Meal in the Quadrangle of the School. Around 300 Christians belonging to all denominations took part.

Two Great Events of Tuman Mission

Holy Family Church of Tuman Mission witnessed to the celebration of its Feast Day on 5th January 2013 at 10.30 am in the presence of His Grace Rt. Rev. Abraham Viruthakulangara, Archbishop of Nagpur, who presided at the Holy Eucharist along with priests, sisters and the faithful and well-wishes and friends from villages of Tuman, Shivajinagar, Shantinagar and Nimkheda made the day a colorful one. The community of Holy Family Church had organized an Agape for all.

SFS English Medium School, Nimkheda, held the Annual Parents' Day on Friday, 11th January 2013 at 4.30 pm with a sea of parents present to witness the event and honouring the Chief Guest, Mr. Dayaram Rathod, BDO of Mouda and Fr. John Muthuswamy MSFS, Principal of St. John High School, the Guest of Honour. The programme was presented on the theme SAMGATI - Unification through dances by the students of the Pre-primary and Primary. The distinguished guests lauded the staff and students for well presented programme. ANKUR - the school magazine was released by Fr. John Muthuswamy. Fr. Vishwas Torne, the Principal presented his report with a Power Point Presentation.

- Bro Jnanamani MSFS

SFS School Sports' Day, Neemuch

“Healthy Mind in a Healthy Body” was the theme of SFS Annual Sports' Day 2013, Neemuch. Shri S K Punjabi, the Chief Guest, Block Elementary Education Officer (BRCC) appreciated the efforts of the school to provide a well-knit platform for the wholesome development of students. His address

was preceded by the inspection of the school for permanent recognition upon which he expressed deep contentment on all affairs of the schooling. The Guest of Honour, Shri Anthony Jenson, Second-in-command, CRPF, Neemuch, received the salute of SFS kids and praised the commendable training at SFS. It did spring up a surprise to him as the March Past displayed discipline and rhythmic movements even at early stage of schooling. The annual sports' day demonstrated the sporting talents of SFS students in athletics, as well as, in mind games. It was also an occasion to distribute the prizes of various academic and non-academic competitions.

CIDCO Parish, Aurangabad

On 25th November 2012, the Feast of Christ the King, the procession of the Blessed Sacrament was led by the prominent members of the Parish for almost a km. away from the Parish with prayers and hymns sung by large number of parishioners. At one of the central areas of Parish Benediction was conducted surrounded by non-Christian and the procession ended at Parish Church with Holy Mass.

16th December 2012 was a day of spiritual renewal with a talk on faith formation, renewal of Christian commitment with inputs by the Parish Priest, followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation, half a day recollection and concelebrated Eucharistic Celebration. Fr. Michael Francis, Parish Priest of Cathedral in his homily emphasised the message of faith renewal by prayer life and devotion to the Eucharist. Christmas message of peace and joy of Christ's Birth was brought to all the parishioners and others by Carol Singers from 17th Dec. to 22nd Dec. 2012 and brought to conclusion on Christmas mid-night mass.

26th January 2013 was marked the triple celebration of Parish Feast, First Holy Communion and Confirmation Day as Rt Rev Edwin Colaco, Bishop of Aurangabad, graced the occasion with his canonical visit of the parish and at the Eucharistic Celebration giving an encouraging homily on faith and faith formation in this Year of Faith declared by the Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI.

New Priests for the Province



Deacon Paul Varambinakam was born on 20th March 1986 at Kanjiramattom, Kerala to VJ Xavier and Margret Mary, baptized on April 30th 1986 at St Francis Assisi Church, Amballore and confirmed in the same church on May 18th 1997. He did his primary schooling from 1994-1997 at Govt. High School Mulamthuruthy and secondary schooling from 1997-2010, St. Ignatius High School Kanjiramattom. He made his first profession on 1st June 2005 at Dhyanashram, Varanasi. He completed his philosophical studies and B.A. at Suvidya College, Bangalore and theological studies at Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune. He made his final profession on 27th December 2011 at Fransalian Seminary, Pune, and ordained a Deacon on 28th December 2011 at Carmel Church, Pune and his diaconate ministry at St. Joseph Church, Ambapani. He will be ordained a priest on 06th April 2013 at St. Francis Assisi Church, Amballore by His Excellency Mar George Cardinal Alencherry, Archbishop of Ernakulam.



Deacon P. Arun was born on 15.06.1985 to Poulouse and Bernith, baptized on 12 -09-1985, confirmed on 22 -12-1997 in the Catholic Church at Enayam, Puthenthurai, Kanyakumari. He did his primary and secondary schooling at Enayam and higher secondary at SFS Seminary, Pudukottai. He made his first profession on 1st June 2005 at Dhyanashram, Varanasi. He completed his philosophical studies and B.A. at Suvidya College, Bangalore and theological studies at Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune. He made his final profession on 27th December 2011 at Fransalian Seminary, Pune, and ordained a Deacon on 28th December 2011 at Carmel Church, Pune and his diaconate ministry at Catholic Church, Nanded. He will be ordained a priest on 8th April 2013, Enayam Puthenthurai, Kanyakumari by Rt Rev Dr Peter Remigius, Bishop of Kottar.



Deacon Henry Nedumkallel was born on 12th June 1984, Vimalagiri, Kerala to Clemant & Gracy, baptized on 19th June 1984 at Muthalakodam and confirmed on 29th April 1995 at Vimalagiri. He did his primary and secondary schooling at Vimalagiri. He made his first profession on 1st June 2005 at Dhyanashram, Varanasi. He completed his philosophical studies and B.A. at Suvidya College, Bangalore and theological studies at SAO PIO X, Maputo, Mozambique. He made his final profession on 01-10-2011 at Katembe, Mozambique, and ordained a Deacon on 17th November 2012 at Nossa Senhora das Mercedes and his diaconate ministry at Nossa Senhora das Mercedes. He will be ordained a priest on 16th April 2013 at Vimala Matha Church, Vimalagiri, by Mar Mathew Anikuzykkattil, Bishop of Idukki.



Deacon Georgekutty Arackaparambil was born on 31st May 1976 to Varghese and Mary, baptized on 25th July 1976, St. George Church, Murinjapuzha, confirmed at St. Joseph's Church, Kuttikanam. He did his primary schooling from 1981-84 at St. Joseph's LPS, Kuttikanam and secondary schooling at Prakash Bhavan, Mannarkad. He made his first profession on 1st June 2005 at Dhyanashram, Varanasi. He completed his philosophical studies and B.A. at Suvidya College, Bangalore and theological studies at Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune. He made his final profession on 27th December 2011 at Fransalian Seminary, Pune, and ordained a Deacon on 28th December 2011 at Carmel Church, Pune and his diaconate at Catholic Church, Mannarkad. He will be ordained a priest on 18th April 2013 at Kuttikanam in Idukki Dt., Kerala by His Eminence Mar Mathew Arackal, Bishop of Kanjirappilly.



Deacon Nobit Kombanathottathil was born on 20th May 1985 at Malayinchi, Kerala to Baby and Mary, baptized on 18th July 1985 at St Thomas Church and confirmed in the same church. He did his primary schooling from 1990 to 1995 at Malayinchi and secondary schooling from 1995 to 2000 at Udumbannor. He made his first profession on 1st June 2005 at Dhyanashram, Varanasi. He completed his philosophical studies and B.A. at Suvidya College, Bangalore and theological studies at Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune. He made his final profession on 27th December 2011 at Fransalian Seminary, Pune, and ordained a Deacon on 28th December 2011 at Carmel Church, Pune and his diaconate at St. Francis De Sales Church, Janakpuri, New Delhi. He will be ordained a priest on 20-04-2013 at Malayinchi by Rt. Rev. Mathew Vaniyackackl, Bishop of Satna.



Deacon M. Ashok Antony was born on 29th December 1984 to I. Mathew and M Amalorpava Mary, baptized on 26th January 1984, Immaculate Mary Church, and confirmed in the same church in 1997. He did his primary schooling from 1994-1997 at St. Peter's High School Sathipattu and secondary schooling at the same school from 1997-2000 and pre-degree studies from 2000-2001 at St. Joseph's School, Cuddalore. He made his first profession on 1st June 2005 at Dhyanashram, Varanasi. He completed his philosophical studies and B.A. at Suvidya College, Bangalore and theological studies at Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune. He made his final profession on 27th December 2011 at Fransalian Seminary, Pune, and ordained a Deacon on 28th December 2011 at Carmel Church, Pune and his diaconate ministry at St Peter's Church, Raidihi. He will be ordained a priest on 1st May 2013 by Most Rev Antony Anandarayar, Archbishop of Pondicherry-Cuddalore.



Deacon Sudhir Kujur was born on 6th September 1979 at Andhla to Martin & Virginia, baptized on 6th September 1979 at Catholic Ashram Ambakona and confirmed in the same church. He did his primary schooling from 1991- 1996 at Govt. Boy's Primary School, Benjora, and secondary and higher secondary schooling from 1996-2000 at Deepak Janta HSS Harradeepas. He made his first profession on 1st June 2005 at Dhyanashram, Varanasi. He completed his philosophical studies and B.A. at Suvidya College, Bangalore and theological studies at Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune. He made his final profession on 27th December 2011 at Fransalian Seminary, Pune, and ordained a Deacon on 28th December 2011 at Carmel Church, Pune and his diaconate ministry at Divya Jyoti Ashram, Latapara.

He will be ordained a priest on 4th May 2013 at Catholic Ashram Ambakona, by Rt. Rev. Emmanuel Kerketta, Bishop of Jashpur.



Deacon Rakesh Kerketta was born on 09th April 1984 at Sakhajharn, Chhattisgarh to Ferdinand and Fulmany, baptized on 16th April 1984 at Blessed Sacrament Church, Musgutri and confirmed in the same church on 16th April 1984. He did his primary schooling from 1990-1998, Shaskiye Prathmic School Dhandhar, Madhya Pradesh and secondary and higher secondary schooling from 1998-2001 Mahadeodand, Chhattisgarh. He made his first profession on 1st June 2005 at Dhyanashram, Varanasi. He completed his philosophical studies and B.A. at Suvidya College, Bangalore and theological studies at Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune. He made his final profession on 27th December 2011 at Fransalian Seminary, Pune, and ordained a Deacon on 28th December 2011 at Carmel Church, Pune and his diaconate ministry at Holy Redeemer Church, Neemuch, Madhya Pradesh. He will be ordained a priest on 8th May 2013 at Musgutri by Rt. Rev. Emmanuel Kerketta, Bishop of Jashpur.

Hearty Congratulations to

Fr Issac Mankulathil for the special issue of Tarang in honour of 175th Jubilee Year.

Fr Manoj Tirkey is appointed the Manager of St Mary's School, Rohtak, of Delhi Archdiocese.

We Pray For

Fr Francis Coffy, age 92 years, Franco-Swiss Province, passed away on 27.01.2013

Joseph Plathottam, age 95 years, father of Fr Joseph Plathottam, passed away on 02.02.2013

John Karakunnel, age 91 years, brother of Br. Lazarsus Karakunnel, passed away on 08.02.2013

Provincial's Itinerary:

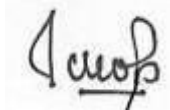
18 th & 19 th February	Visa Formalities
28 th February	General Body Meeting at Janakpuri
04 th to 16 th March	Mozambique
17 th to 19 th March	Visa Formalities, Bombay
20 th March	Nagpur
22 nd to 24 th March	PCM

Salesian Thought

The crosses that we fashion for ourselves are always lighter than the ones laid on us.

-St. Francis de Sales

Yours Fraternally



Fr Jacob Karamakuzhyil MSFS
Provincial Superior